



Debbie DynerHarris <debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>

thanks and follow up5 messages

Becky Dennison

Thu, Jul 7, 2016 at 5:39 PM

To: "debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org" <debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>

Cc: Marie Kennedy, Sylvia Aroth, Linda Lucks

Debbie,

Thanks for taking the time to meet with us yesterday to hear our concerns and opposition to the Venice Beach BID, both in principle and in this specific context. You asked specifically what we'd like to see now.

Overall, we'd like the Councilmember to reconsider his support for the BID or, at the very least, remove the City property and funds from the approved BID area.

Understanding from our conversation that isn't likely, at a minimum we'd like to see the BID member vote and Council approval vote delayed until:

1. There is reconsideration of the amount of public land and funds included in this BID, or alternate mechanism(s) proposed for public control over the public funds in the BID
2. There is reconsideration/revision of the management plan that includes a larger and more diverse set of voices, including removal of or minimizing expenditures on private security
3. There is a mechanism(s) included for those that are not commercial property owners to have a voting interest in the BID
4. Outreach and education is done among BID stakeholders and other impacted community stakeholders

We also have a couple of follow up questions. First, we would like to know who the officers and/or staff of the Venice Beach Property Owners Association are, as they were approved as the BID entity in the council action and the only information online is that they recently incorporated and their agent for service is Steve Heumann. Second, we'd like to know the justification for including the strip of Venice Blvd between Pacific and Abbot Kinney in the BID as there are no businesses located there, it doesn't align with the rest of the map, and has the appearance of being included solely as an opportunity to include more City-owned land and assessments. Any information you have on either of these questions would be appreciated.

We are happy to respond to any follow up questions about the reasons for our serious concerns about the impact the BID will have on decreasing public control of public land and funds, accelerating gentrification, changing the culture and character of the Boardwalk and Venice overall, and increasing civil rights violations against homeless residents.

As clarification, there are many community partners and other stakeholders opposed to the BID, and we are only speaking for VCH in this email.

Thanks again,

Becky

Becky Dennison

Executive Director

Venice Community Housing (VCH)

720 Rose Avenue

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(310) 399-4100,

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VCH helps low-income people stabilize their lives through non-profit affordable housing and comprehensive skills training

Debbie DynerHarris <debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>

Mon, Jul 11, 2016 at 1:44 PM

To: Becky Dennison

Cc: Marie Kennedy

Sylvia Aroth

, Linda Lucks

Hello Becky. Thanks for the email. I will certainly communicate VCH's desire to reconsider his support of the BID, or remove City property and funds, but as you suggest, it is unlikely for him to do either of those things. I also believe that it is too late at this point to do either. I also don't see him stepping to delay a vote, but I will also make sure he hears that request and the others you include as well.

As I understand it, the people who organized as the "Venice Beach Property Owners Association" only did so for the purposes of forming the non-profit as required for this process.

As I said in our meeting, there is no actual board at this time. The eventual board of directors will vote and decide on who the office holders are, and the board can also vote to change the officers of the corporation as well.

In terms of what properties were included in the BID, I would recommend you speak with Tara Devine, who was hired by the property owners to shepherd this process through the Clerk's office. She can discuss their reasoning behind the BID boundaries. She can be reached at tara@devine-strategies.com.

Thanks,

Debbie

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Debbie Dyner Harris
District Director



Councilmember Mike Bonin
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Becky Dennison

Tue, Jul 12, 2016 at 9:48 AM

To: Debbie DynerHarris <debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>

Cc: Marie Kennedy

Sylvia Aroth

, Linda Lucks

Thanks Debbie. We are disappointed to hear that nothing will be done in response to our concerns.

That said, there has to be a Board of Directors in order for a non-profit to incorporate – they sign the incorporation papers. So there is a Board for the Property Owner's Association and I think it's reasonable for the public to know who they are prior to the Council vote on August 23rd, since the organization and its current Board will be given initial authority over the BID and its resources. We'd still like to know that information.

Talk soon.

From: Debbie DynerHarris [<mailto:debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>]

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2016 1:44 PM

To: Becky Dennison

Cc: Marie Kennedy; Sylvia Aroth; Linda Lucks

Subject: Re: thanks and follow up

[Quoted text hidden]

Debbie DynerHarris <debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>

Tue, Jul 12, 2016 at 9:57 AM

To: Tara Devine

can i provide her this information? i presume so but not sure if the three board members are okay with that?

[Quoted text hidden]

Debbie DynerHarris <debbie.dynerharris@lacity.org>

Tue, Jul 12, 2016 at 4:39 PM

To: Becky Dennison

Cc: Marie Kennedy

Sylvia Aroth

Linda Lucks

I believe that the board will be formally elected if the BID is officially approved and formed. Again, I urge you to reach out to Tara Devine with detailed questions as I am not going to be your best source of information.

Debbie

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